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## WATSON'S SOAPS.

## WATSON'S PURE CARBOLIC SOAPS.

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## FOR MEDICINAL AND TOILET USE.

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BRINGS SUDDEN DEATH TO FLEAS AND ALL "PEDICULOUS" PARASITES.

It is nevertheless perfectly harmless, and may be used without the least fear of any bad result on Dogs of any age, sex, or size.

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Have attained a reputation in the Far East which makes them universal Toilet Requisites.

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A varied assortment of favourite kinds; the principal difference between them being more one of personal preference than of quality; all are pure, and the base of all is the same, but the perfumes differ. New kinds will be introduced from time to time, as occasion requires.

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We also keep in stock a great variety of the following well-known Soaps—

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A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 2nd September, 1889. [5]

BIRTH.

On the 19th instant, at Reading, the wife of J. H. STEWART-LOCKHART, of a son. [1444]

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1889.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

AN Imperial decree dated the 17th inst. has been telegraphed to Canton appointing Lu Yi-ch'ang to be the new Prefect of Kuang Chou-fu (Canton).

We are informed by the Agents (Messrs. Russell & Co.) that the E. and A. S. Co's steamer Gullair left Port Darwin for this port yesterday, and may be expected to arrive on the 30th inst.

MESSRS. Russell & Co. inform us that the steamship Lancelot left Singapore to-day for this port, and may be expected to arrive on the 28th inst.

THE agents (Messrs. Carlowitz & Co.) inform us that the Navigazione Generale Italiana steamer Bisagno, from Bombay, left Singapore to-day for this port, and is due on or about the 28th inst.

THE Band of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders will play the following programme at the Barrack Square, to-morrow evening, commencing at 7.30 o'clock—

March—"Edinburgh Town" Wilson.  
Lancers—"Faint to die" Lutz.  
Valse—"A summer night in Munich" Collier.  
Polka—"Valse" Gungl.  
Quadrille—"Pantomime" Costa.  
Gigue—"Down the road" Harper.

WE hear that the Futai of Chekiang province has been lately handed over to the Board of Punishments for the determination of a penalty. It appears that this has been done owing to two successive deficits in the annual amounts sent to the Imperial Treasury by the Chekiang Maritime Customs, which calls for the sum of Tls. 79,000 annually. The amount sent last year (1887-8) was a little over Tls. 62,000 or a deficit of something over Tls. 17,000 and the sum sent for the year 1886-7 was just three taels less than that for last year.

THE Kobe Cricket Club possesses a bowler who is evidently an artist of the very highest class. His name is "Chesai," so we assume that he is either a Chinese or a "Jap;" but at all events his performance on the 26th ult. in a match The Eleven v. The Rest deserves to be recorded. "The Rest," nineteen in number, were disposed of for 66, and then the Eleven assumed the defence to the trundling of Thorneycroft and "Chesai." The latter's delivery is described as "very fast," and he took nine wickets, all clean bowled, for 22 runs—the only man making any stand being George Grimble, who scored 18 out of a total of 51.

HERE is a pretty good sample of English as she is spoken in Kobe:—"Having recently commenced Bathing Place for myself, at this city, I have been increased the business day by day. I have this day built several rooms with the purpose to lend a room to a customer, and I trust that the novelty of the designed, the clear of place and changing the hot water every time will induce you under the name of

"TATSUMI BATHING PLACE,"

Downward of Uji-Kawa, Kobe.

(South-Western side of the Post Office.)

STANDING-ROOM was unobtainable at Wood-year's Circus, down at Bowring, after nine o'clock last night, and a thoroughly pleasing performance—considerably ahead of that given by the Company when they visited Hongkong last year—was given. Much of it was of the conventional style—the highly-trained "Richmond" walked, trotted, and galloped in the most docile way, and "Voltaire" reclined patiently whilst the gigantic ring-master, Mr. Woodyear himself, went to sleep with him. But there were also many novelties. Some really "number one" Japanese, just brought down from Dai Nippon, gave a remarkable neat and dexterous exhibition of balancing, ending up with the Bamboo act. The smiling unconsciousness of danger with which the tiny Japanese girl performed quite endeared her to the spectators, and the applause was long and long. Equally popular was the exhibition of juggling and feats of equilibrium by young Lee, a new and marvellously expert performer. The Poland exercises were greeted with general approbation. The old favorites were also warmly received, and showed that they had in no respect deteriorated. Frank Shady's clever and daring horsemanship, "Shorty's" funny business, and Miss Alice Moore's equitation all had their share of applause, and the interest was fully maintained to the end. A matinee will be given on Saturday afternoon.

## THE HONGKONG POLO CLUB GYMKHANA MEETING.

We append the entries and handicaps for the two important events to be decided at the Polo Club Meeting on Saturday next:—

The "HIT-EM" AND "HOLD-EM" STAKES; Half Mile Handicap for all China ponies. Entrance \$5. First \$25; Second \$10; Third \$5.

Fleetfoot ..... 12st. 4lb.  
Tal ..... 12st. 4lb.  
Grey Friar ..... 12st. 4lb.  
Glenclair ..... 11st. 6lb.  
Wiscare ..... 11st. 6lb.  
Melap ..... 11st. 6lb.  
Fidget ..... 11st. 6lb.  
Scamp ..... 11st. 6lb.  
Tramp ..... 11st. 6lb.  
Viking ..... 10st. 10lb.  
Sai ..... 10st. 10lb.  
Reinder ..... 10st. 10lb.  
Postboy ..... 7lb.  
Methever ..... 7lb.  
Buddhist ..... 7lb.  
Belshazzar ..... 7lb.  
Lochinvar ..... 7lb.

LADIES' NOMINATION DISTANCE HANDICAP, four furlongs. Owners up, but in the case of two ponies running belonging to the same owner, the rider of one of the ponies is to be nominated to the committee, when the entries closed: Welter owners (over 15 stone) allowed substitute jockeys for themselves. Entrance \$2. Prizes, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, to go to the Nominatees.

Tal ..... 11st. 11lb. scratch.  
Buddha ..... 11st. 11lb. 10 yards.  
Fleetfoot ..... 11st. 4lb. 30  
Grey Friar ..... 11st. 4lb. 40  
Frigate ..... 11st. 4lb. 40  
Glenclair ..... 11st. 4lb. 50  
Lochinvar ..... 11st. 4lb. 50  
Viking ..... 10st. 10lb. 50  
No Name ..... 10st. 10lb. 50  
Methever ..... 10st. 10lb. 70  
Sai ..... 10st. 10lb. 70  
Fidget ..... 11st. 10lb. 70  
Scamp ..... 11st. 10lb. 80  
Tramp ..... 11st. 10lb. 80  
Wiscare ..... 11st. 10lb. 90  
Moonlighter ..... 11st. 10lb. 100  
Reinder ..... 11st. 10lb. 110  
Melap ..... 11st. 10lb. 110  
Dan ..... 11st. 10lb. 110

## THE DRAIN DERANGERS.

Regular meeting of the above this afternoon.

Every present but Dr. Canlie, Mr. Humphreys, and King Francis the first. The last-named potentate wrote saying that he was going for a six weeks' trip (down to his new kingdom, presumably. Evidently scared by that upset his royal brother in Brazil got this week). Said they must really excuse him, but affairs of state, etc., etc. First business a row about the mortality at Kowloon. Statistics showed that nine died of fever there the week before last, or 104 per thousand. Mr. Ede must have exercised about it. Memo from Dr. Canlie on the subject read. Said the outbreak was a severe form of malarial fever, probably due to the sudden change from heat to extreme cold at the beginning of the month, and to the earth-cutting in connection with the building that was going on there.—Dr. Ayres dissented. Thought cold weather stopped fever.—Nothing done; matter dropped.—Report of committee on public laundries laid on the table. Mr. Ede suggested that a scheme be drafted and submitted to the Government.—Mr. Brown said that the Government had been considering the matter for some time, but had done nothing.—Mr. Ede moved that the report be sent to the Government, with a recommendation that steps be taken to establish public laundries. Everybody favorable.—Finish.

## YESTERDAY'S LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The following proceedings at yesterday's Legislative Council were omitted from last night's issue:—

## THE FRENCH AND GERMAN MAIL STEAMERS.

His Excellency.—The next two items are the French and German Mail Steamers Continuation Ordinances. As you are all aware, these Bills are now before you, I am happy to say, for the last time. The Convention, however, does not end until, I think, April next year, and it is necessary, in order that we may fulfil our engagements, to pass these Bills to cover that time. I am glad to say it is the end of them. I dare say you won't object to raise this year the usual opposition, as your opposition has met with success.

The Bills were then moved by the Acting Attorney-General, and the Standing Orders suspended that they might pass through all their stages at once.

His Excellency.—The reason for passing these Bills is that the Bills have already expired, and it might give rise to difficulties with the Powers concerned if they found they were without the protection they are entitled to. The Convention has not expired, but the Ordinance has expired. Therefore I hope hon. members will not object to pass them to-day.

The Bills were passed.

## THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK ORDINANCE (AMENDMENT).

The Acting Attorney-General.—Before moving the first reading of this Bill I have again to move the suspension of the standing orders, as this is a private Bill and ought to have been published in the Gazette before being introduced, and also that the Bill may pass through all its stages to-day, as the Bank management urgently request it for business purposes.

His Excellency.—Well, that is a point I have never had before me. I suppose passing it to-day cannot possibly affect anybody prejudicially.

Mr. Chater.—No; I don't think it can, because there is a proviso at the bottom of the Bill that it has to be submitted to the approval of the shareholders before the directors can act under it.

His Excellency.—Well, I don't object.

The Acting Attorney-General.—I beg to move the first reading of this Bill. The object is to remove any doubt as to the power of the Bank to establish branch banks outside the colony.

The Acting Colonial Secretary seconded, and it was passed.

The Acting Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Bill, he said—I have already stated to you the objects, and I may add that the Bill has received the sanction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The Bank is empowered to establish branches with the consent of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, but any branch establishment out of the colony has to be carried on in conformity with the law of the place where such branch is established. In section 3 there is an additional clause which has not been before the Secretary of State, and I don't think it is necessary it should go before him. It is merely a formal clause intended to carry into effect the deed of covenant, and this suspends the coming into operation of the Ordinance until the approval of the shareholders of the Corporation is signified.

The Bill passed through all its stages.

## THE TRIAL OF CRIMINAL LUNATICS.

The Acting Attorney-General.—I beg to move the first reading of a Bill to provide for certain expenses in relation to persons native of or ordinarily resident in the Colony, who have been convicted, or acquitted on the ground of insanity, before Courts exercising jurisdiction under the Imperial Foreign Jurisdiction Acts in foreign countries. The Bill is introduced by direction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Acting Colonial Secretary seconded.

The Bill was read a first time.

## THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE.

The Acting Attorney-General.—I beg to move the first reading of this Bill. It is an Ordinance to amend the law relating to the registration of trade marks.

The Acting Colonial Secretary seconded, and it was read.

## THE MERCHANDISE MARKS ORDINANCE.

The Acting Attorney-General.—I beg to move the first reading of a Bill to amend the law relating to fraudulent marks on merchandise. The object of the Bill is to introduce the present law now in force in England so far as it is applicable to this Colony.

The Acting Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

His Excellency.—With reference to this Ordinance, I have to say that it will, of course, be published in the usual manner, but it is a matter for regret to me that the minutes of the meeting which was held at my house early in the year of various leading merchants interested in the matter, have been unfortunately lost. The Attorney-General was to take down the results of the meeting and to note them on the draft of the Ordinance. Unfortunately no note on the subject can be found, nor any amended draft, and my memory is not sufficiently accurate for me to be able to trust to it as to what the amendments were. The Ordinance, therefore, will be published, and I trust to hear from those interested what are the particular points which we settled it would be advisable to change in the draft. I may say, if my memory serves me, my opinion coincided with that of the meeting. You were present, Mr. Layton, I believe.

Mr. Layton.—Yes, your Excellency.

His Excellency.—And I believe there was complete unanimity on all points.

Mr. Layton.—So far as I remember there was.

## POLICE FORCE CONSOLIDATION ORDINANCE.

The Acting Attorney-General.—I have now to move the first reading of a Bill to amend the Police Force Consolidation Ordinance of 1887. The object of the Ordinance is to bring deserters from the Police Force under the Fugitive Offenders Act.

The Acting Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

## THE PATENT LAW.

The Acting Attorney-General.—I beg to move the first reading of a Bill to amend what is really the Patent Law of the Colony. The object of the Ordinance is to bring the law Ordinance up to date with legislation on the subject in England.

The Acting Colonial Secretary seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

## THE VACCINATION BILL.

The Acting Attorney-General.—I beg to move the second reading of this Bill. The first reading was taken four or five months ago and I hardly remember why it was dropped, but it is proposed to proceed with it now. The Bill is a reproduction of the Vaccination Ordinance of 1888 with certain amendments necessary to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee appointed to report on the subject. I do not propose to go into the whole Bill, but to point out, as they arise, the amendments that are introduced. In the 5th Section provision is made for the making of rules and regulations by the Governor in Council. There were some regulations in the late Ordinance, but they were indefinite. The next amendment proposed is in section 7. It hits only medical practitioners under the Registration Ordinance have given certificates of unfitness for vaccination. Now it is proposed to allow Chinese doctors, previously approved by the Governor, to give these certificates, and provision is also made for the renewal of these certificates of unfitness. Section 8 is also new. It provides for the registration of these certificates of unfitness, and section 11 is new. It provides for the registration of all persons vaccinated by the Public Vaccinator. In section 12 the question arose as to whether children born out of the Colony came within the provisions of that section. Words have now been added to include children born outside the Colony, and the section deals with the public for neglecting to register. On the recommendation of the Committee a provision has been added that no parent or guardian shall be liable for not having his child vaccinated between the 1st May and the 30th September, that being the time when the disease is less prevalent. These are the most material alterations in the Ordinance, of which I beg to move the second reading.

His Excellency.—I do not propose to go into committee on this Ordinance to-day. When I saw it on the agenda paper yesterday evening, the circumstances in connection with it had escaped my memory. I had intended before proceeding with it to look it up for the consideration of the Sanitary Board. I propose to do so now before dealing with the matter in Committee. Second reading passed.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The Acting Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Colonial Surgeon's Report for 1888, the Harbour Master's Report for 1888, the Returns of Superior and Subordinate Courts of 1888, a Report on the Great Storm of May, Correspondence respecting Storm Warnings, Correspondence respecting the Government girls' school, and the Colonial Secretary's Report on the Blue Book and Department Reports for 1888.

## THE COUNCIL MEETINGS.

His Excellency.—With regard to the meetings of Council, it appears to me that we do not get through as much work as we might do, and I think we should do more with somewhat clearer heads if we met earlier in the day. I often notice members looking somewhat fagged on coming in late in the afternoon. It is a time when they want exercise. I think if possible we might arrange some earlier hour. Suppose we met at three o'clock?

Mr. Ryrie said that on some days there were directors' meetings at three o'clock.

Mr. Chater said there would be a convenient hour on Wednesdays.

His Excellency.—Very well, we will adjourn to next Wednesday at 3 o'clock.

The Council then adjourned.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held at the close of the Council meeting. The Acting Colonial Secretary presided. All the votes recommended by the Governor, except that for the Nursing Sisters at the Civil Hospital, were passed.

## HONGKONG'S PROGRESS.

## ITS REVENUE AND EXPENSES.

## H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

The following is the Report forwarded by Governor Sir G. William De Voux to the Right Honourable Lord Knutsford, Secretary of State for the Colonies, and referred to by him at the Legislative Council yesterday:—

## GOVERNMENT HOUSE, Hongkong, 31st October, 1889.

MY LORD.—In connection with the Blue Book for 1888 (forwarded with the usual Colonial Secretary's Report during my temporary absence in the late Mr. Stewart's despatch No. 287 of the 2nd ultimo) I think it may prove of interest that I should make some observations, at the same time giving additional information and statistics in respect of the present condition of the Colony and its progress in the two years during which I have administered the Government:

## REVENUE.

1. The Ordinary Revenue shows a constant tendency to grow in amount *pari passu* with the increasing population and wealth of the Colony; and that of 1888 (\$1,557,300) was larger than in any former year. The increase by comparison with 1887 (\$1,427,455) was principally in (1) "Stamps," which advanced to \$187,150 from \$170,235; (2) "Municipal Rates," which afforded \$363,201 in the place of \$331,853; (3) "Postage," which returned \$144,218 instead of \$137,436; (4) "Miscellaneous Receipts," principally profit on subsidiary coins, \$107,341, as against \$61,227.

2. The improvement in all of these items was, no doubt, largely due to the increased business

and wealth of the Colony. That the "Municipal Rates" was however more immediately occasioned by the better assessment of property which was brought about by an officer recently appointed for this special duty. I have reason to believe that there is still room for improvement in respect of valuation, and that from attention to this point, as well as from the larger, increased value of property, there should be a still greater advance in this item during the next few years.

3. Profit on subsidiary coins is a comparatively new item of Revenue, and is showing a constant tendency to increase. Appended is a table showing the number of coins issued since the supply commenced, together with the profit obtained each year.

## SILVER COINS. COPPER COINS. PROFIT.

1864.	15,638.70	30,293.92
1865.	49,447.00	13,333.22
1866.	60,014.50	30,343.58
1867.	10,000.00	30,000.00
1868.	14,000.00	29,972.28
1873.	105,317.00	9,000.00
1874.	49,883.00	11,000.00
1875.	47,787.00	5,500.00
1876.	44,623.00	6,500.00
1877.	57,680.00	12,500.00
1878.	38,815.00	14,700.00
1879.	50,595.00	12,000.00
1880.	50,400.00	6,300.00
1881.	46,000.00	4,500.00
1882.	101,000.00	10,000.00
1883.	212,500.00	2,493.47
1885.	28,200.00	2,463.87
1886.	47,500.00	4,134.45
1887.	497,300.00	24,352.73
1888.	490,000.00	72,904.77

The issue this year will, according to present indications, again show a great advance, having already (October 23rd), reached a total of \$948,500, consisting of 1,854,250 separate coins, and though this must not be counted on as a permanent source of Revenue I see no reason to anticipate any falling off in the demand in the immediate future.

4. The desire of the Chinese for these coins (containing pieces representing 20 cents, 10 cents, and 5 cents manufactured at the Majesty's Mint for this Colony) appears to be almost insatiable; and if from any cause there is delay in the supply from England, the purchasing price at once rises to a premium, which has been known at the Chinese New Year to be as high as 20 per cent. I understand that this coinage is growing more and more in favour among the vast population of the neighbouring Empire, probably owing to confidence, in its exactly uniform standard of value, and that the coins are not only used as money, but as a considerable amount, converted into buttons and other ornaments.

5. Besides the causes for increase of Receipts above indicated there is another which in the next few years is likely to have a greater effect in this direction than any other. I refer to the enhanced return from the Opium Farm, which was in 1888, granted for 3 years from April, 1889, at an increase of \$95,200 per annum over the price obtained for the previous term. This result is attributable partly to the large increase of population and partly to efforts, which proved successful, to arouse competition on the part of the Chinese capitalists of Singapore and Penang.

6. It should be mentioned that the Revenue has in Hongkong a much smaller proportion



hollowers in the advantage of this protection, and accept it readily—a fact which is the more remarkable inasmuch as they, for the most part, reject altogether other applications of Western Medical Science.

21. (II.) "The Vagrancy Ordinance, 1888," was an attempt to meet an evil of growing magnitude, by rendering those having the management or control of vessels liable for the cost incurred by the Colony in respect of destitute persons introduced. Scarcely a week passes without the necessity of sending to their homes in Europe or elsewhere, persons who have come here ostensibly to seek a livelihood; this repatriation being the preferable and cheaper alternative to their perpetual maintenance in Gaol or other public institutions. Some of these are sent here apparently according to instructions, by Her Majesty's Consuls in China and Japan; and not a few, I suspect, with the object of being sent home at the public expense. Those of them who are foreigners are almost invariably repatriated by their Consuls, and thus from one Government to another, all become a charge on the Colony. The Ordinance above referred to, which was intended as a remedy for this state of things, has probably done some good by inducing greater caution in the introduction of such persons; but it cannot so far be said to have been a marked success; and though it may perhaps be susceptible of beneficial amendment, I fear that the evil is one which can never be completely cured; and must be regarded as an inseparable incident of our position as a great shipping centre.

22. (III.) "The Rating Ordinance, 1888," was, at the time for the purpose of the rating of the Colony. It embodied the more valuable portions of previous Ordinances, and contains at the same time various useful additions and amendments, principally with the object of simplifying procedure, which are the result of the experience gained by Mr. Lister, the Treasurer, in the supervision of the system, and of the careful attention given by him to the subject.

23. (IV.) "The European District Reservation Ordinance" deals with an evil which has been recognized by successive Governors for years past, but for which this represents the first effort to provide a remedy. The close packing of the Chinese in their houses which is the normal condition of all classes among them, including in some degree even the well-to-do, enables a much larger rent to be obtained from land in Chinese occupation than from that inhabited by Europeans whose health in a climate unfavourable to them (not to mention their comfort) requires much more breathing space in connection with their residences. Thus the large influx of Chinese in recent years, and the comparative advantage to land owners in providing dwellings for them, has caused a continually increasing intrusion of Chinese houses upon the quarter of the Town formerly occupied exclusively by Europeans. This result would have been comparatively endurable if it were possible for Europeans to live in health or comfort when surrounded by such houses. But unlike the Chinese who have, probably by a long process of natural selection, become inured and insensible to the conditions inseparable from extreme density of population, they are rendered ill and miserable by the effects of habits which such insensibility produces. Thus little by little, and at a gradually increasing rate, the Europeans are being pushed out of the Town of Victoria; and it seemed probable that before long there would be no suitable area for their residence there, and that such as remained in the Colony would have to choose between the alternative of living under most disagreeable and unhealthy conditions, or of incurring the heavy expense, possibly only to the comparatively wealthy, of residence in the Hill District.

24. Had the above state of things been allowed to continue, there can be no doubt that it would have brought about a diminution, if not actual extinction, of the very small European population, a result which could not be otherwise than prejudicial to the Chinese themselves. For though possessed of many valuable characteristics, the latter are still, and are likely to be for a long time to come, lacking in some of the qualities which are essential to true progress; and I can scarcely think there is any opening for rational doubt, that without the presence of a considerable complement of Europeans (apart from those engaged in Government) this Colony could no more maintain, than it could ever have reached its present condition of prosperity.

25. By the Ordinance in question a certain portion of the Town is reserved, not for exclusively European occupation, but for houses built according to European models, and occupied in much more limited numbers than is usual with Chinese. If Chinese choose to live under these conditions, as I am informed they commonly do in the neighbourhood of Penang, there is nothing in the Ordinance to prevent their doing so; and the provisions of this Law are simply directed to secure for Europeans a preferred portion of the Town in which they can live in reasonable comfort and health.

26. No opposition was offered to the Ordinance on the part of the Chinese, possibly because they themselves prefer to be segregated from Europeans; and there was none from any other quarter, though I had looked for at least some on the part of land-owners, who might naturally be expected to resent such a limitation on the right of property. To their credit, however, they, tacitly or expressly assented to a measure which may thus be regarded as universally recognized to be necessary.

27. "The Ordinance to authorise in certain cases judicial investigations into the cause of fires" sufficiently explains itself. The effect of this measure has so far apparently been beyond anticipation; as the number of fires, which had become very serious, very largely diminished immediately after the law came into force. It remains to be seen whether this comparatively happy state of things will continue. If so, I apprehend that the result will be largely due to greater care in the selection of insurance risks and decreased recklessness of competition among insurers.

28. The principal of the twenty-six Ordinances which have already been passed this year are as follows:—

(A) "The Praya Reclamation Ordinance, 1889," is a measure for facilitating a great scheme of Reclamation along the whole of the western front of the Town of Victoria extending for 3,051 yards. By this project 57 acres will be added to the Town including a Praya or Esplanade 70 feet wide, together with other streets of an aggregate length of 5,518 yards. The cost, estimated at \$2,921,567, is to be defrayed by the proprietors (including the Government) of the land now facing the sea, who will in return receive the reclaimed land opposite to their frontage. As the profits on the work are expected to be large, it is probable that the great majority of the frontage proprietors will accept the terms offered. In the case of dissentients the expense of carrying out that portion of the work in which they decline to participate will fall on the Government.

29. Though it is hoped that the public Treasury will gain largely by this work—the difference between the cost of Reclamation and the value of such of the reclaimed land as will belong to the Crown; (2) from the building sites which will be rendered available at the West of the Town by the removal of earth required for the Reclamation; and (3) in rental

and rates from the large area added to the Town. The principal objects of the scheme were:—(1) to afford an opening for relief from the present overcrowding of the population; (2) to bring the front of the Town in immediate juxtaposition with deep water in the place of the present foreshore which is for the most part silted up and often extremely noxious; and (3) to improve the appearance and increase the mercantile convenience of the Town front by the provision of better buildings, and of a wider, more adapted to the requirements of a vast and growing commerce.

30. The carrying out of this great scheme, which is due to the initiative of the Honourable C. P. Chater, does not appear likely to present any serious engineering problems, and the successful solution of such as there are may be regarded as only a question of time. The principal difficulties are in connection with the financial arrangements and the due adjustment of private interests and claims. This portion of the subject, which has already occasioned much consideration and a large correspondence, is likely to require the careful attention of the Government for some time to come. But while it cannot be expected that all of the many persons concerned will be completely satisfied, nor that during the progress of the works there will be an entire absence of complaints on the score of inconvenience, I do not permit myself to entertain a doubt that when the whole is completed, the undertaking will be almost universally regarded as having been a great and lasting benefit to the community.

31. (B) "The Building Ordinance, 1889," is an elaborate measure of the sanitary condition of the Town. A large portion of the population is densely crowded in houses, which are without yards or windows at the back, and which are arid and gloomy in the interior, and complete darkness. It is proposed to require one or more portions of land covered with such houses and to re-sell them (1) either after the replacement of the present houses by others constructed under better sanitary conditions, or (2) with an obligation attached to the purchase for the building of such houses. Probably the first alternative will have to be adopted at the outset; and if this should prove financially successful there would be comparatively little difficulty in respect of the second and more convenient one. It is hoped that the cost of reconstruction and the loss of building area from the provision of "back-yards" will be largely compensated by demand for the improved dwellings. If the event should prove otherwise, the project need not be pushed further; but I apprehend that it would be worth some cost to the public to get rid of a grave scandal, and a serious danger to the public health by the only method yet suggested which would not cause widespread distrust and discontent among the Chinese population. It will however be worth considering in the future, and if it should be found that any such scheme may be incurred on re-sale should not be recouped by a special rate levied on the district benefited or by a quasi-penal rate on houses unprovided with back-yards.

32. (C) "The Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance, 1889," is intended to make better provision for the acquisition of land for public purposes, and constitutes a tribunal of arbitration for the award of compensation. One of the principal objects of the measure is to facilitate a contemplated experiment having for its object a permanent improvement in the sanitary condition of the Town. A large portion of the population is densely crowded in houses, which are without yards or windows at the back, and which are arid and gloomy in the interior, and complete darkness. It is proposed to require one or more portions of land covered with such houses and to re-sell them (1) either after the replacement of the present houses by others constructed under better sanitary conditions, or (2) with an obligation attached to the purchase for the building of such houses. Probably the first alternative will have to be adopted at the outset; and if this should prove financially successful there would be comparatively little difficulty in respect of the second and more convenient one. It is hoped that the cost of reconstruction and the loss of building area from the provision of "back-yards" will be largely compensated by demand for the improved dwellings. If the event should prove otherwise, the project need not be pushed further; but I apprehend that it would be worth some cost to the public to get rid of a grave scandal, and a serious danger to the public health by the only method yet suggested which would not cause widespread distrust and discontent among the Chinese population. It will however be worth considering in the future, and if it should be found that any such scheme may be incurred on re-sale should not be recouped by a special rate levied on the district benefited or by a quasi-penal rate on houses unprovided with back-yards.

33. (D) The title of "The Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, 1889," sufficiently explains itself. The system of purchasing or kidnapping girls, often of very tender age, for the purpose of training them to a life of prostitution seems to be generally prevalent in China, and its suppression in Hongkong is attended with many difficulties. So much is interested in it, and so much of the extraordinary cunning of the Chinese is employed in concealing its operation, that its complete extinction at an early date can scarcely be anticipated. It is hoped, however, that this measure which occupied many days in its consideration by the Executive and Legislative Councils, will at least impose a serious check upon it; and will eventually render this abominable trade too dangerous to be any longer attractive.

34. But while the greater part of this Ordinance may be hoped to be productive of unimixed good, there is one special provision of it, passed in deference to the opinion of the Chinese, which I cannot conscientiously approve and in respect of which, therefore, I have felt it an obligatory duty to give emphatic support to the protest of the unofficial Members of Council. I refer to the clause which gives legislative sanction to the policy, already adopted by executive order before my arrival in the colony, of terminating the compulsory examination of women. The full expression of my views on this vexed question being inappropriate to this report, is given in a separate despatch; and it will be sufficient to mention here that "examination" is not only not objected to, but has been shown by positive proof to be approved and desired, by the whole of the unfortunate class which was subject to it, and (3) that the measure of abolition now adopted is against the wishes of all classes and races of the community.

35. (E) "The Chinese Extradition Ordinance, 1889," represents an effort to improve the Law relating to the rendition, in accordance with Treaty obligations, of Chinese subjects charged with the commission of crime in China. The principal objects of the measure, which regulate the rendition of prisoners, lessens the responsibility of the Magistrate, and increases that of the Governor in Council, who, however, will now receive the assistance of the Chief Justice, in the consideration of the evidence. There is also a much needed schedule specifying the crimes in respect of which rendition may be granted, and a provision (passed in deference to fears generally prevalent among the intelligent Chinese) by which special security is afforded to persons who have been for a year resident in the Colony. I have dealt at length with this extremely difficult subject in other despatches; and it will be sufficient to say here that, so long as Chinese ideas are so utterly at variance with the requirements of British Law, it will, I fear, be practically impossible to avoid international disagreements as to what prisoners rightly come under the designation of "criminals" whose extradition is obligatory by the Treaty.

36. Among the principal of the legislative measures of the year, the following may be mentioned as the most important:—(1) An amendment of the Law regulating Emigration, intended to check the serious abuses which, according to evidence continually accumulating, attend the exportation of the enormous number of coolies, now probably exceeding 50,000, who annually leave the Colony for service in Sumatra, Borneo, the Straits Settlements and elsewhere. (2) A Law for better defining the powers of the Sanitary Board established by the Public Health Ordinance, 1887. (3) The constitution of a Public Office of Widows and Orphans. (4) An amendment of the Bankruptcy Law, I had much hoped, moreover, to have initiated before now a measure for the settlement of Titles, and for rendering more simple the transfer of land on the principle of the Torrens Act. But in view of the late sub-division of many of the most valuable lots, and of the frequent uncertainty as to areas

and boundaries, I find it my regret that any such measure, in order to be satisfactorily effective, must be preceded by a trigonometrical survey, for which accordingly I have asked Your Lordship's approval.

#### EDUCATION.

37. On this important subject I can scarcely do better than quote some remarks in a report, written just before his death by the late Mr. Stewart, Colonial Secretary, whose deep interest in the cause of education was evinced by the valuable aid which he rendered to it during the whole course of the long period of his public service, now unhappily come to an end.

"The advance in Education is one of the most gratifying features in the progress of the colony. There is yet much to be done, and female Education is only in its infancy; but the lines on which the system is moved seem to be correct, and time alone is required to reclaim those portions of the field which remain untouched. We have now four highly-efficient Public Schools, not including the Convent, which do so much for the education of girls. Government Schools are penetrating into the outlying villages. The Education code is working most smoothly, and seldom gives rise to any question which cannot be easily settled."

38. It is gratifying to note that since the above was written our Lordship has approved a scheme for the establishment, by way of experiment, of a Government Central School for Girls similar to the Boys' School, now called the "Victoria College," which has already proved so successful. The various objections to the establishment of such a school which have been urged in the Colony, and which have been suggested by my own experience, were, in my opinion, entirely overcome by an able report of Dr. Eitel, the Inspector of Schools (dated the 10th of July, 1889) which has been already forwarded to Your Lordship. There appear to be strong grounds for believing that the institution, now to be established, will meet a very urgent need; and that its success, by giving a general impetus to female education, will considerably reduce the unhappily large number of children in the Colony (9,000, the great majority girls) who are still without education.

39. The completion of the new building for "Victoria College" is providing greatly increased accommodation for pupils, together with the additional strength given to the Teaching Staff, may be expected to assist largely in the good work, which this Institution has already effected—not only for the higher education of the youth of the Colony; but in introducing a leaven of European acquirements in knowledge among the people of the neighbouring Empire. I should not, however, omit to state that this latter object, as well as the higher education of the Colony, is being largely served by several other institutions, which, supported mainly by private subscription, are assisted by Government contributions, under the Grant-in-aid system established by Governor Sir John Pope Hennessy.

#### SHIPPING.

40. With regard to the tonnage statistics contained in the Colonial Secretary's Report, it may be noted that the aggregate tonnage of vessels entered the Port of Victoria during 1888—6,400,410 tons—shows a slightly falling off from the returns for 1887—6,401,837 tons. In view (1) of the diminished export of tea from China in consequence of the competition of India and Ceylon; and (2) of the serious checks given to Chinese Emigration in the United States and the Australian Colonies, with the contraction of trade thereby occasioned—it might have been expected that the shipping returns would have been much more seriously affected. But though, probably as the result of these causes, the tonnage of European vessels fell from 4,607,914 to 4,536,442 tons, it will be seen that that of junks rose from 1,793,913 to 1,863,968 tons, so that the decrease of trade in one direction was almost entirely compensated by increase in another. It should be noted that the shipping returns of this Colony are very far from merely indicating the entry of steamers for the purpose of coal-supply, as is probably the case with the greater portion of the large tonnage returned by some of the Mediterranean Ports. For Hongkong is the terminus of 37,183 tons of the junks trade, and 1,863,968 tons; and of nearly all of the European and American sailing ships entering, but also of many lines of Ocean steamers including 3 trading to America, 2 to Australia, 1 to Calcutta, 2 to Europe (the Austrian Lloyd's and Florida Rubattino) and others to Manila, Borneo, Siam, and the Coast Ports of China; while of the steamships of the other great lines, the P. & O., the Messageries Maritimes, the German Lloyd's, the "Ocean," "Glen," "Sifre," and "B.N." Lines which proceed onwards to Shanghai or Japan, there are very few which do not leave here on the outward voyage, and take on the homeward, a considerable portion of their cargo.

#### AFFORESTATION.

41. The work of Afforestation, begun in 1881, is being still continued. According to a return furnished by Mr. Ford, the Superintendent of the Forests, 37,183 trees of the present value of £88,612 and 682,335 in 1888, the number planted together having been 5,676,207. In so far as I have been able to judge from personal observation, a very large proportion of these plants have either failed altogether, or are merely stunted shrubs. I am awaiting a report from Mr. Ford's to the actual extent of success, with the causes of failure, before considering what measures should be taken under the circumstances.

#### GAOLS.

42. It is satisfactory to note that the number of prisoners in the Gaol, which was 660 in 1886, fell to 308 in 1887 and to 367 in 1888, the daily average having similarly fallen from 674 in 1886 to 584 in 1887 and to 513 in 1888, the total decrease in both cases being over 20 per cent. The returns of prisoners tried in the Courts show also a falling off, which if it may be taken to indicate a decrease of crime is probably due to the severe discipline introduced into the Gaol. The number of prisoners still bears an abnormal proportion to the population, and the fact can scarcely be easily surmised in view of the hard struggle for livelihood among the people of China, and the immediate neighbourhood to the Colony of the Province of Kuangtung of which the extremely dense population is said to be the most lawless in the Empire.

#### POPULATION.

43. Statistics of the estimated population are given in the Colonial Secretary's Report; but it may be well to point out here that the difference between the number returned at the census of 1881 (460,000) and that of the present estimate (215,000) shows an increase of 34 per cent. in 7 years and that the ratio of women to men which was 1 to 2.56 in 1881 is now estimated at 1 to 2.52. This great, and apparently permanent, disproportion between the sexes would appear to justify special caution in applying to Hongkong that deprivation of protection from certain diseases, which has been deemed expedient in England.

#### PUBLIC WORKS.

44. The Tyam Water-Works have been already mentioned under the head of Expenditure. During the period under review the great dam of the main reservoir, the tunnel and conduit received their finishing work, and the service reservoir and filter beds were commenced and completed.

45. Victoria College, which has been several years in construction, was also completed in July

last. It is unquestionably a very handsome building of which the Colony may be proud, but it has cost a large sum (£51,587) and promises also to be extremely costly in maintenance. Seeing how grievous it is, and must have been, the need of other public works, and noting that provision might have been made for the same number of pupils in a more modest building, I cannot but feel that it would have been better if much of the expense incurred, and time devoted to this edifice, had been diverted in other directions.

46. A building has been commenced and completed for the reception of girls, in charge of the Registrar-General, who have been rescued from kidnappers or from brothel slavery, their maintenance, as hitherto has been customary, in a building connected with the Tung-Wa Hospital having proved unsatisfactory.

47. Of the works now most urgently required, the filter-beds for the Pokfulam Water-Works, which previously to the construction of the Tyam Works afforded the chief supply of the Town, have been commenced; and it may be hoped, will be completed before next summer, which is the season of the heaviest rain. The water of this reservoir, which is carried into the Town round the base of Mount Davis and the Victoria Peak by a conduit some 3½ miles in length, has always been rendered muddy by heavy rains, and this disagreeable and most undesirable effect has been aggravated this year not only by an exceptional season, but by the fact that the water, which has been so long as the upper levels and other outlying portions of the Town must be still dependent upon this supply, it is a matter of urgent importance that a work, which ought to have been commenced long ago, should be as quickly as possible pushed to completion.

48. Owing to the causes referred to under the head of Expenditure, other works, although equally needed, have either made very slight progress or have not been commenced at all. The general improvement of the drainage, the necessity of which is continually increasing, will be commenced as soon as the engineers, who have been consulted on the subject, have agreed on the system to be adopted; and the same may be said respecting the distribution works required for the Tyam Water. The Western Market has not proceeded beyond the preparation of the site; and there has as yet been no possibility of commencing the public laundries which appeared on the estimates for the year and are very much required; the present process of clothes-washing being in various ways dangerous to health, especially from the quantity of soap in solution which in some quarters pollutes the air. The Epidemic Hospital has not been built, because not a single site that was, or apparently can be, selected was without grave objections. In consequence, it has been determined to have recourse to a hut; and it is to be hoped that the efforts to obtain one, commenced some months ago, may now be most successfully completed.

49. A similar difficulty in respect of site, has occurred in connection with the Lunatic Asylum, intended to be provided for Chinese. Such a building is required because the present Asylum is sufficient only for Europeans; Chinese patients having been ordinarily confined under most undesirable conditions in a building in the charge of the Directors of the Tung-Wa Hospital. It is not necessary to state the use of the proposed Asylum to Chinese either born or long resident in the Colony; or we should be very quickly inundated with lunatics from the neighbouring Empire. But for service within these prescribed limits such an institution, and must have been for a long time past, very grievously required on the simplest grounds of humanity. I am glad therefore to be able to report that a site has at length been selected, and the plan of the buildings approved; so that, it may be hoped, the work will now proceed without further delay.

50. But second to no other work in importance or necessity is that which is intended to "reclaim the land" for many years past, and the matter appeared to be of sufficient importance to justify urgent measures and very liberal terms, I caused to be conveyed to the Chinese Government various distinct proposals under any one of which the Dominion of China would remain unimpaired and the control of its Government, ordinarily nominal, might at their option be completely secured, while the whole cost of construction would fall on the Colony.

51. With the valuable and most necessary co-operation of Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector-General of Chinese Maritime Customs, Her Majesty's Minister at Peking was able to secure the consent of the Taung-Yi to a settlement which, though differing somewhat from all the proposals made, accepted their main principle; and the work is now, in progress, conducted by the Public Works Department, and at the sole cost of this Government.

52. As the hope of assistance from the Light-house Department of the Chinese Maritime Customs has failed, it has been necessary to purchase a steam-vessel of considerable tonnage specially for this service. The work has also been delayed by an extremely unfavourable season; for landing can be effected at the Gap Rock (on which the Light-house is to be built) only in calm weather, which has during the last year been of rare occurrence. While further difficulty has arisen from the fear on the part of the contractors and workmen that they, on this isolated rock, will become the object of attack from the pirates, who unfortunately still abound in these seas, and whose presence in the neighbourhood may probably render necessary either a guard for the Light-house keeper or cable communication with the rock, as soon as the Light is in operation.

53. Owing to these various causes, I expect that the cost of the construction and maintenance of the Light-house will cost more than was at first anticipated; but even if the expense should be considerably greater, there can be no doubt that the object would be fully worth it. Considering that vessels of an aggregate burden of fully 2½ millions of tons annually reach Hongkong from the South, and that all those which arrive on dark nights or obscure weather are subject to delay and danger (sometimes for many hours) which would be for the most part precluded by this Light-house with its warning fog-horn, it may readily be estimated how enormously valuable will be this work to the trade of the colony. Indeed it is a matter for surprise that more vigorous efforts were not long ago made to secure so great a benefit.

54. A serious outbreak on the part of convicts employed on works in gangs outside the gaol took place in the month of September, 1888, and resulted in the death of a valuable officer besides that of two of the prisoners, killed while violently resisting capture. My serious attention having thus been attracted to this subject, I found that similar events had occurred not only in the past, but I became satisfied that without an utterly disproportionate expense for guards, they were not likely to be prevented in the future; so many are the chances of escape offered by the situation of the island, and increased, as there is every reason to believe, by the powerful secret societies of China, which devote themselves to the assistance of criminals in confinement. A report from the Surveyor-General, strongly deprecating the use of convict labour on public works, and under ordinary circumstances, strengthened the doubt which I had previously entertained as to its economical value in a Colony where free labour is so cheap; and completely satisfied me that with any additional expense for guards it would mean actual loss. Being moreover convinced, both by medical opinion and from the results of experience, that

the working of the convicts outside was not at all new to their health, I, under all the circumstances, determined that they should for the future be confined to the precincts of the Gaol, and I am glad to say that, in the ten months which have since elapsed, there has been no cause whatever to regret the decision.

55. In May of this year occurred the severest storm of rain and thunder ever experienced in the Colony. During 36 hours there fell some 38 inches of rain, and lightning was constant during the whole time, fifty flashes and more being occasionally observable in a single minute. The effect, upon a place situated as is Victoria on the lower slopes of a ridge of high hills, may be easily imagined. Landslips caused the discharge of many thousands of tons of loosened stones and earth upon the lower levels, uprooting trees, filling reservoirs, blocking and bursting sewers and raising some of the water-side streets from 6 to 10 feet above their natural level. In one place the nineteenth-century sewer was burst and the nineteenth-century deep drain above it was carried away, leaving a gap 300 square yards in extent; and huge granite boulders, descending from the heights descended in three places the solidly built cut-stone conduit of the Tyam Water-Works. Fortunately but few houses were destroyed or seriously injured; but roads, streets, sewers, and other Government property suffered greatly, costing, it is estimated, \$112,783 for repairs. Some few lives were unhappily lost, principally by lightning, and it is not for wonder that the number was not much larger; indeed when it is recalled that many millions of tons of water fell on steep incline above the Town, it is a subject of congratulation, and speaks well for the general solidity of work, that there was not a far greater aggregate destruction. In the course of a few months reconstruction and repairs will have removed in most places all traces of the storm; but some of the damage is repairable only by time, and it will take years before Glenelg Ravine, hitherto remarkable for its abundant and luxuriant foliage, and other similar spots, can completely recover their former beauty.

56. Quite recently occurred an incident which at one time threatened a serious complication with China. Two Chinese, one named Kowloon, on territory belonging to the Colony, by a number of Chinese soldiers evidently acting under superior authority. There was at first much unwillingness to restore the prisoners on the ground that the place of arrest was not British. But on further investigation it became certain that the information at first received by this Government was correct, and the news having in the meantime arrived that the men were about to be executed—as actually happened in a similar case some years ago—there was immediately made a second and more energetic protest on behalf of the Government, which happily produced the desired effect. The men were delivered up to Mr. Alabaster, Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, by the Vicar of the Two Kungs, and brought to this Colony.

57. The "Viceroys" had doubtless been misled by the reports of his officers as to the place of the arrest. They, it appears, had for some time previously been on the look-out for the chief prisoner, who lived on British ground close to the border; and at last apparently losing patience they crossed the line and seized him in his own house. I have not yet heard, however, that any of them have been punished either for the act or the subsequent mis-report of it. The arrested men having been charged with piracy and murder preferred on behalf of the Chinese Government, they were discharged from custody, the evidence against them being held insufficient to warrant extradition, and they forthwith left the colony before their release became known to the Government. If, as there seems reason to believe at least as regards one of them, they were really guilty of atrocious crime, this result is a matter for much regret; but the case will serve to accentuate the necessity of improvement with extradition charges, and is of more importance to this colony, it will, it may be hoped, induce greater caution on the part of Chinese officials in respect of the violation of British territory, of which this is by no means the first example, though it is, I believe, the first occasion of the restoration of the prisoners.

58. Among the leading features of the period under report, should be noticed the great rise in the price of land. Since 1881 the market value of marine lots, has become enhanced at least 50 per cent. on the average, the rise in some instances being much greater, while inland town lots have advanced 15 to 20 per cent. The greater part of this rise has taken place within the last two years, and by way of illustration of the fact to show how great is the present value of land in favourable situations, I may mention that an area of 7,037 square feet which cost \$40,000, in 1885, sold for \$70,000 in 1887 and is now refused for sale on a bona fide offer of \$150,000—over £3 the square foot, or at the rate of more than £130,000 sterling per English acre. Another area of 44,000 square feet, which cost \$335,000 in 1887, actually sold in 1888 for \$465,000, about 32½ square feet for £70,000 per acre. Another of 32,000 square feet, selling for \$350,000 in 1886, sold for \$500,000 in 1887, or £157½ per square foot, £93,000 per acre. The price of a portion of the same area rose in the same period from \$310,000 to \$500,000, and another of 33,000 square feet which cost \$310,000 in 1882 is now refused for sale at \$450,000 or over 50½ per square foot. The above instances are all of Marine lots; but I am informed on good authority that inland lots, of large area in the aggregate, situated in the Chinese business quarters could not be obtained at a price less than \$15 to \$20 (45/- to 70/- sterling) a square foot or £97,000 to £130,000 per acre.

59. In the Hill District the advance in value has been relatively even greater than elsewhere; as for instance from \$3,000 in 1879 to \$15,000 in 1888; \$10,000 in 1882 to \$16,000 in 1888; \$21,000 (estimated) in 1885 to \$30,000 in 1887—while Government land which could not have been sold at 5 cents a square foot within this decade, has realised at auction from 20 to 50 cents per square foot.

60. The most recent advance in Marine lots has been probably due to the prospects of profit from the Reclamation scheme mentioned above, and that in the Hill District is no doubt, in considerable measure, owing to the Tramway from the town to Victoria Gap (1,100 feet above the sea) worked on a plan similar, I understand, to that of the railway on Mount Vesuvius. By means of this line (which was opened in May, 1887, and which carried 148,344 passengers in its first year) residence at "the Peak" is rendered much more easy to those—and they include nearly all the male population of the neighbourhood—whose occupations require their daily presence in town. And from this, and other causes the demand for houses at this high altitude has become so great that 25 have been erected within the last two years, and 39 more are in course of construction.

61. Each of these houses is built on a site more or less precipitous, the requisite level for buildings and tennis courts being obtained by blasting; and as every brick, stone, timber, and other article used in construction, as well as the labour and cartage, requires to be carried on coolies' shoulders, for distances varying from one to two miles, to a height of 1,000 to 1,600 feet, it may be imagined what has been the labour and cost involved in the work, and why

According to a return made for me by the Police there are 1,000 loads per diem of bricks and other materials.

VARIOUS STATISTICS.			
51. The following statistics furnished to me by Mr. Wodehouse, Acting Treasurer, may prove of interest:—			
Total amount of Deposits Current and Fixed in the European Banks in Hongkong, 31st Dec. 1888	\$7,688,600	\$3,882,000	
Do. Estimated in Chinese Banks, .....	15,000,000		
Total amount in the Savings Banks, .....	211,000		
Notes in circulation with the public, .....	4,775,856	9,100,836	
Market value of all registered Companies in Hongkong, .....	39,380,000	95,921,700	
REVIEW OF LEADING EVENTS AND OF THE CONDITION AND PROSPECTS OF THE COLONY.			
52. At the beginning of the period of two years above referred to, viz. in November, 1887, occurred the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee. The British community fell short of no other in its outward expression of loyalty; but the most striking feature of the occasion was the heartiness with which the Chinese took part in it, and the very large expense, estimated at exceeding £100,000, which they incurred for prizes and other objects.			
53. The Tyam Water-Works have been already mentioned under the head of Expenditure. During the period under review the great dam of the main reservoir, the tunnel and conduit received their finishing work, and the service reservoir and filter beds were commenced and completed.			
54. Victoria College, which has been several years in construction, was also completed in July			



It is that residence at the Peak must be confined to the comparatively wealthy.

69. Another of the leading features of the most recent history of the Colony is the number of joint-stock enterprises undertaken almost entirely with local capital—to which, it may be noted, Chinese have, for the first time, begun to make considerable subscriptions in common with Europeans. Since the beginning of 1888, 35 Companies have been formed, with capital already paid-up aggregating \$5,584,750, for land investment, manufacture, and trade in Hongkong, and for mining and planting enterprises in the Malay Peninsula, Borneo, and Tonkin. So strong has been the tendency towards joint-stock investment that the shares of most of the Companies have been insufficient in number for the demand, and it may be mentioned as showing the amount of capital available for the purpose that within two months of this year the sum of \$1,800,000 was paid into the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in connection with the shares of one Company.

70. As far as is known, or nearly all, of these Companies, especially those whose field of operations is in Hongkong, have good, some of them excellent, prospects of success. There can moreover be little doubt that land in Hongkong will eventually be even more valuable than now. But it remains to be seen whether property in either land or shares is at present worth the high price to which it has been advanced by speculative purchase. It may indeed be taken as certain that in very few instances can the profits within the next year or two afford a fair interest on present outlay; and hence probably arise the signs of reaction which are now beginning to show themselves. If this depression of values should continue, it would no doubt cause much distress among those who have been speculating beyond their means; but any general injury is not at all likely to be other than temporary; and a Colony having so many solid elements of prosperity it may be taken as certain that, in the absence of calamity, the wound will be very quickly healed.

71. Though the absence of any Custom House and of any returns of Imports and Exports, precludes any certain estimate of the amount of trade, it may be gathered from the above remarks in connection with "Shipping" that the enormous commerce of the Colony is in a condition of healthy progress. We may have not yet felt the full effects of the restrictive measures against Chinese in the United States and Australia; and of the decline in the Chinese Tea trade; but there is good reason to think that any contraction from these causes is being rapidly compensated in other directions. But while commerce pure and simple, and must be for a long time to come, the principal element of our prosperity, it is, I think, from manufacture that may be hoped the greatest progress of Hongkong in the future. We can readily have abundant and cheap supplies of raw materials; and there is available, to a practically unlimited extent, the cheap labour of China; while we have also, what is absent there, the advantage of general confidence that enterprise will not be unnecessarily hampered and retarded by illegitimate restraints. Already have been established in the last few years sugar refineries which are doing an exceedingly large and apparently prosperous business; we have moreover ship and boat-building yards, rope works, ice works (now doing a large export trade) and some 30 minor industries enumerated in the Blue Book. But considerable as is the aggregate of manufacture already, it is in all probability appreciable by comparison with what it would shortly become if there were to be any important reduction of the price of coal, which as being almost exclusively obtained from distant countries is at present very costly (\$8 to \$16 per ton); and such a reduction, now, I think, be regarded as only a question of time. Enormous and as yet completely undeveloped coal deposits are known to exist in China and other neighbouring countries; and there is abundant evidence that the progressive party among the Chinese are beginning to awaken to the advantage of utilising their mineral wealth. Indeed, unless all of the various movements, there and elsewhere, for the production of coal in the neighbourhood, should prove abortive, it may be expected that the only element needed for rapid progress in manufacturing enterprise will in no long time be supplied.

72.—To render more complete the information derived from the above account of events and observations on statistics, and in order to enable a fuller appreciation of the condition and progress of the Colony, it may be well to give, however imperfectly, some idea of its outward appearance from a contrast of the present with the past.

73.—There must be little living who saw the island before the British occupation. If one of them, having been absent during the whole interval, were now to return, even the most salient and beautiful features of the natural landscape would scarcely enable him to identify with the Hongkong of to-day what he would remember as a bare rock, with a fisherman's hut here and there as the only sign of habitation, and a great sea-basin only very rarely disturbed by a passing keel.

74. For now he would see a city of closely built houses stretching for some four miles along the island shore, and rising, tier over tier, up the slopes of the mountain—those on the upper level interspersed with abundant vegetation, while on the opposite peninsula of Kowloon, which was (until very recently) an uninhabited waste of undulating red rock, he would now see—in the distance prevalent verdure—in the foreground and along the whole sea-board numerous houses together with docks, great warehouses and other evidence of a large and thriving population. Again, the silent and deserted basin has become a harbour so covered with shipping, that even if he has been round the whole island, he could never before have seen so much in a single coup d'oeil. At anchor or moving are some 40 to 50 ocean steamers, including ships of war; large European and American sailing vessels, and hundreds of sea-going junks; while in the space intervening and around are many thousands of boats, for the most part human habitations, with steam-launches rushing in all directions.

75. Going ashore our visitor would see long lines of quays and wharves, large warehouses teeming with merchandise, shops stocked with all the luxuries now to be had, and two civilisations; in the European quarter a fine Town Hall, stately Banks, and other large buildings of stone; in the Chinese quarters houses, con-

\* There are 10 other Companies registered in Hongkong of which I have been unable to ascertain the paid-up capital, making a total of 45.

\* The Hongkong Land Investment Company Limited. Capital \$1,000,000 of which \$500,000 has been paid-up together with \$1,500,000 premium on the land and buildings. The sum paid for shares not allotted was returned to the applicants.

\* There are at present strong objections on the part both of Europeans and Chinese to any provision for such returns, partly because they would involve a certain restriction upon the complete freedom of trade, and partly on other grounds, arising from our vicinity to China.

\* The shares of the China Sugar Company which own one of these refineries, not the largest, are now quoted in the market at 250 per cent. premium.

\* There are several docks—one of them a dry dock constructed entirely of granite which can take in the largest vessels now afloat in the world, except perhaps the two recently built for the White Star Line. In the Kowloon extension of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, all in immediate proximity and for the most part under one roof, may be seen at any time merchandise worth over half a million of dollars.

\* The transmigration of Hongkong shows little but the great port of the British Empire, and therefore (with the possible exception of New York, or which there is no statistics) it is the greatest of the world. The aggregate business of shipping is greater than that of all the other ports on the Continent of America, or than that of the four leading colonies of Australia.

\* All Rights from these belonging to British and foreign workshops; these are of steam-launches in the harbour.

structed after a pattern peculiar to China, of almost equally solid materials, but packed so closely together and thronged so densely as to be in this respect probably without parallel in the world; (c) and finally he would see streets stretching for miles abounding with carriages (drawn for the most part not by animals but by men), and teeming with a busy population, in the centre of the Town chiefly European, but towards the West and East almost exclusively Chinese.

76.—Ascending higher up he would find Churches, Public buildings, and many houses, all of exclusively European design extending now about a foot of the distance up the mountain for the most part detached, and nearly all fronted with stone-arched verandahs, which at a distance give somewhat of a palatial flavour even to the smallest; he would see moreover beautifully laid-out gardens, public and private, and solidly constructed roads some of them bordered with bamboos and other delicately fringed trees, and fringed with the luxuriant undergrowth of semi-tropical vegetation; while meeting here, but comparatively few passengers he would scarcely realise the neighbourhood of a large population except from what he could not doubt recognise the indescribable hum of congested humanity, arising from the Town and Harbour beneath.

77.—Ascending still further to the summit of ridge, he in the course of a two-mile walk would observe that not only Victoria Peak, but Mount Kellett and the heights above the Magazine Gap with the many intervening knolls and ravines at a high elevation, are for the most part intersected by roads, and studded with houses, similar to those last described, built in one or two places so close together as to present almost an urban aspect; and looking down whence he came, he would doubt recognising the grand mountain-amphitheatre of his early recollection, would at the same time notice that its arena, occupied by city and shipping, has changed as though by the wand of an enchanter. (d)

78.—Hongkong has indeed changed its aspect; and when it is remembered that all this has been effected in Her Majesty's reign and indeed during a space of less than fifty years on ground in immediate contact with the most populous Empire in the world, by a comparatively infinitesimal number of an entirely alien race separated from their homes by nearly the whole earth, and, until their countrymen in Australia and Canada, living in an encircling and trying climate; and when it is further remembered that the Chinese, whose labour and enterprise under British auspices have largely assisted in this development, have been under no compulsion, but have come here as free men, attracted by liberal institutions, equitable treatment, and the justice of our rule; when all this is taken into account, it may be doubted whether the evidences of material and moral achievement, presented as it were in a focus, make anywhere a more forcible appeal to eye and imagination, and whether any other spot on the earth is thus more likely to excite, and more fully to justify pride in the name of, Englishman.—I have the honour to be, My Lord, Your Lordship's most obedient and humble servant,

(Signed) G. WILLIAM DES VIGUE.

It is believed that over 100,000 people live within a certain district of the city of Victoria not exceeding 5 square miles in area. It is known that 1200 people live in the space of a single acre. Besides the houses and shipping, every one of several thousand boats and sampans carries a light at night; so that seen from the Peak on a dark night, the wide expanse of the city and harbour beneath, has the effect of a number of lanterns with more stars in it than a similar space above.

SCOTT'S Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites, for *Rickets*, *Marasmus* and all wasting disorders of children, is very remarkable in its results. The rapidity with which children gain flesh and strength upon it is very wonderful. Read the following:—"I have tried 'Scott's Emulsion' in cases of wasting in young children, and I am of opinion that it is a valuable preparation for such cases. The children take it and ask for more, and the good effects are apparent. I consider it far superior to ordinary Cod Liver Oil."—J. MARSHALL, M.R.C.S., &c., 143, Grange Road, Brompton, S.E. Any Chemist can supply it.—A. S. Watson & Co. (Ltd.), agents in Hongkong and China.—*Advt.*

## Today's Advertisements.

WOODYEAR'S ROYAL AUSTRALIAN CIRCUS.

OPEN EVERY EVENING.

CROWDED! CROWDED!

The public admit it to be the finest circus that has visited Hongkong.

OUR JAPANESE ARTISTES THE FINEST JAPAN HAS PRODUCED.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, the 23rd November, 1889.

Doors open at 2.30 p.m., commencing at 3 sharp.

GRAND MATINEE.

Amahs in care of Children to chairs, 50 cents.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:—

Boxes of 6 Chairs ..... \$12.00

Single Seats in Boxes ..... 2.50

Dress Circle Chairs ..... 2.00

Stalls, Carpeted Seats ..... 1.00

Pit ..... 0.30

Children under 12 Half Price.

Soldiers and Sailors in uniform—to Pit 25 Cents; Half Price to all other parts except the Boxes.

SEATS AND BOXES can be reserved at KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED.

ROBERT LOVE, General Agent.

Hongkong, 21st November, 1889. [1426]

GYMKHANA.

THE MEETING will be held on the Race-course on SATURDAY, the 23rd November, 1889. 1st Race at 2.30 p.m. Entrance to the enclosure \$1. Ladies and Members of the Jockey and Polo Clubs admitted free.

By kind permission of Mr. Colonel VERNON, CHATEAU, the Band and Pipes of the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders will be on the Grounds.

W. FLETCHER, Polo Secretary.

Hongkong, 21st November, 1889. [1447]

## Today's Advertisements.

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE Steamship "AMOV."

Captain Th. Lehmann, will be despatched for the above Port, TO-MORROW, the 22nd inst., at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to SIEMSEN & Co. Hongkong, 21st November, 1889. [1441]

THE SCOTTISH ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR BANGKOK (DIRECT).

THE Company's Steamship "TAICHIOW."

Captain J. A. Morris, will be despatched for the above Port, on SUNDAY, the 24th inst., at DAYLIGHT.

For Freight or Passage, apply to YUEN FAT HONG, Agents. Hongkong, 21st November, 1889. [1442]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & TAMSUI.

THE Company's Steamship "FORMOSA."

Captain Hall, will be despatched for the above Ports, on SUNDAY, the 24th inst., at DAYLIGHT.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LIPKRAIK & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 21st November, 1889. [1445]

STEAM TO STRAITS AND BOMBAY.

(Calling at Colombo) sufficient indorsement of order.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship "GWALIOR."

Captain W. J. Nantes, will leave for the above places, on SATURDAY, the 7th December, at NOON.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent. Hongkong, 21st November, 1889. [1446]

STEAM TO SHANGHAI.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship "THAMES."

Captain W. Scaton, will leave for the above place about 24 hours after her arrival with the outward English Mail.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent. Hongkong, 21st November, 1889. [1447]

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, ISMAILIA, PORT SAID, MALTA, GIBRALTAR, MARSEILLES, BRINDISI, TRIESTE, VENICE, PLYMOUTH, AND LONDON; ALSO, BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA AND AUSTRALIA.

M.B.—CARGO CAN BE TAKEN ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF PORTS, MARSEILLES, TRIESTE, HAMBURG, NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

SPECIE ONLY LANDED AT PLYMOUTH.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship "KAISAR-I-HIND." Captain G. W. Atkinson, with Her Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from this for LONDON via BOMBAY & SUEZ CANAL, on WEDNESDAY, the 4th December, at NOON.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M., and Specie (Gold) at the Office until 4 P.M., on the day before sailing.

Silk and Valuable for Europe will be shipped at Colombo; Tea and General Cargo for London will be conveyed via Bombay without transhipment, arriving one week later than by the direct route via Colombo.

For further particulars regarding FREIGHT and PASSENGER apply to the PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Office, Hongkong.

The Contents and Value of Packages are required to be declared prior to shipment.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bills of Lading.

This Steamer takes Cargo and Passengers for Marseilles.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent. P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office. Hongkong, 21st November, 1889. [1448]

THE CHINA SHIPPERS MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship "CHINGWOW."

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, are being landed at their risk, into the Godowns, of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all claims must be sent in to the Office of the Undersigned before NOON, on the 27th inst., or they will not be recognised.

All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 27th inst., at 4 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 27th inst., will be subject to risk.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before NOON, TO-DAY, the 21st inst.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 21st November, 1889. [1443]

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

In the Matter of SORABJEE RUSTOMJEE.

FOR Sale, the unexpired residue of the term of two years, with option of a third year created by an Agreement dated the Fourth day of April, 1889, subject to the Monthly Rental of \$75 and Rates, and that desirable residence known as "The Retreat" situate on the corner of Castle Road.

Those desirous of bidding must attend at the Registry Supreme Court House, on FRIDAY, the 22nd inst., at 11 O'CLOCK.

The Agreement may be perused at the Registry's Office.

Dated the 20th day of November, 1889. BRUCE SHEPHERD, Official Assignee. [1442]

## Masonic.

VICTORIA LODGE, No. 1026.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above-named Lodge will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, TO-MORROW, the 22nd inst., at 8.30 for 9 P.M. precisely. Hongkong, 16th November, 1889. [1431]

## Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

IN succession to HAJEE HAMED HAJEE ESSACK, I have commenced business as MERCHANT and COMMISSION AGENT in Hongkong, Canton, and China and Mr. ABDULLA KADERENA is duly authorised to sign my Firm.

MAHOMED HAJEE ESSACK ELLIAS. Hongkong, 16th November, 1889. [1430]

## Insurances.

\$1,000 STG. Payable at Age 55, or at death if previous (even if that event occurs during the first twelve months)—may be secured by a payment at the rate of:—

£	s	d	(a. b.)
7	6	0	.....20
8	14	2	.....30
10	11	2	.....35
13	4	10	.....35
17	15	8	.....40
27	12	6	.....45

AFTER the Policy has been three years in force—should the Policy-holder wish to discontinue future payments—he will be entitled to receive on application a Free Paid-up Policy for proportionate amount of the Sum Assured.

For instance a man who had assured at 45, after five years' payments would be entitled to a Paid-up Policy for £300 free of future payments as explained in Prospectus.

Note.—It is an advantage to effect Provisions of this nature early in life. By delay the rate of subscription increases; Death may occur before the Provision is effected, or Health may fall and render the life ineligible for Assurance.

THE BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED. Agents. STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.

THE INDIAN IMPERIAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company are prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at Current Rates.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co. Hongkong 5th November, 1889. [1432]

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL ..... £2,500,000

INVESTED FUNDS upwards of ..... £2,000,000

ANNUAL NET INCOME ..... £1,200,000

THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents of the above Company, are prepared to issue POLICIES OF INSURANCE against FIRE at Current Rates.

STOLTERFOHT & HIRST. Hongkong, 1st November, 1889. [1434]

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF 1877 IN HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

REUTER, BROCKELMANN & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 1st July, 1889. [821]

GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY IN LONDON.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE and LIFE at Current Rates.

REUTER, BROCKELMANN & Co., Hongkong, 1st July, 1889. [822]

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED ..... \$1,000,000.

The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN, Secretary. HEAD OFFICE, No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST. Hongkong, 1st February, 1889. [1433]

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

CAPITAL TAELS 600,000 } \$833,333.33

EQUAL TO ..... \$318,000.00

RESERVE FUND ..... \$318,000.00

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEE SING, Esq. LOU TAO SHUN, Esq. LO YUEN MOON, Esq.

MANAGER.—HO AMEL.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST. Hongkong, 17th December, 1888. [1401]

## To be Let.

TO LET.

ROOMS in "COLLEGE CHAMBERS."

Apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co. Hongkong, 18th November, 1889. [143]

TO LET.

NOS. 2 & 3, WEST TERRACE.

Apply to G. C. ANDERSON, 13, PRAYA CENTRAL. Hongkong, 11th November, 1889. [1407]

TO LET.

HOUSE No. 2, "SMITH'S VILLAS" Magazine Gap; a spacious five-roomed HOUSE, with basement and out-house, excellent view. Expected to be ready 1st August next.

Apply to F. BLACKHEAD & Co. Hongkong, 16th July, 1889. [142]

## Intimations.

"IMPORTANT NOTICE."

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

INVITE special attention to their last Shipments of XMAS & NEW YEAR CARDS, JUST TO HAND.

A full Assortment of First Class Goods is now on View, including a Choice Selection of MARION'S PAINTED ORALS, and all the latest Novelties of the best English and Continental Artists to be found in the Market.

CHRISTMAS CONFECTIONERY.

We are now offering a good variety of this Class of Goods, all in splendid condition, at Moderate Prices, comprising:—CHOCOLATES, CHOCOLATE CREMES, CHOICE FRENCH SWEETS, BURN'T and SUGARED JORDAN ALMONDS, &c. FANCY CRACKERS, &c.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

We have just received and opened out a First Class Assortment of NEW PATENT CAMERAS, LENSES and appliances of all kinds, suitable for both Amateurs and Professionals. The Cameras and Lenses are of Exceptional quality, specially made for use in tropical climates, and fitted with all the latest improvements.

Cheap Sets of Apparatus for Amateurs and Travellers. Three sizes (viz.) 1/4, 1/2, and whole plate. Complete in strong Wood Cabinets. DRY PLATES—Thomas, Ilford, Britannia, &c., kept in stock.

Photo Chemicals and Sundries of all kinds at Moderate Prices.

Hongkong, 18th November, 1889. [1436]

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

ADJUSTMENT OF BONUS FOR THE YEAR 1888.

SHAREHOLDERS are hereby requested to send in to this Office a List of